REMARKS

Receipt of the Office Action of March 17, 2008 is gratefully acknowledged.

The examiner states that the IDS filed on 2/9.2005 does not comply with the Rules because "at least [an] Abstract" of DE 198 46 596 and DE 196 51 270 have not been provided. DE 196 51 270 corresponds to U.S. 6,170,019. An abstract of DE 198 46 596 is being submitted herewith. Since the DE documents were sufficiently identified in the original IDS, a further IDS apart from the identification of the '019 patent and the submission of the noted abstract, is not believed to be necessary.

The objections to claim 13 is noted. Claim 13 has been amended to overcome this objection.

The rejection of claim 12 as indefinite under 35 USC 112, second paragraph is noted. The examiner's interpretation is correct, in that an operating system is intended.

The rejection of claim 13 as indefinite under 35 USC 112, second paragraph is also noted. The additional information refers to the parameters identified. Accordingly, the term "as" has been added.

Claims 10, 12 - 14 and 16 - 18 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) by Hartikainen et al, while claim 11 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Hartikainen et al in view of Bayeh et al, and claim 15 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Hartikainen et al in view of Tidewel,II. These rejections have been carefully considered and as a result are respectfully traversed.
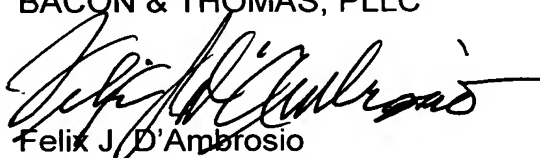
Hatikainen et al. relates to the management of field devices in industrial process systems. A maintenance management system collects status and/or diagnostic data of field devices over a field communication interface in a manner specific for each type of field device. The system processes the collected data and provides condition or event data, e.g., alarms and fault and device condition data to external systems, such

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as the automation system of a plant, by an open communication method, which is independent of the type of field device and the field communication interface. Such open communication methods are for instance electronic mail, Internet, Intranet, DDE (Dynamic Data Exchange), short message. The data structure of the event data are preferably independent of the type of field device, i.e., it is identical for different types of field device.

The present invention, on the other hand, enables a transmission of limited generic condition data, which is sufficient for the operator of the plant, to a control room and more accurate text-based condition data to the maintenance personnel. The cited references provide no hint in the direction of the present invention as it is described in amended claim 10. Accordingly, claim 10 as now amended, and claims 11 - 18, which depend therefrom, are believed to patentably distinguish over the cited references and should now be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: June 17, 2008

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